

Wickes

**GOOD IDEA
LEAFLET**


HOW TO CHOOSE AND USE WICKES CLADDING

For many years timber has been a very popular material for the cladding of walls and ceilings inside the home as well as for numerous cladding jobs outside.

In recent years PVCu has been developed as a cladding material and is growing in popularity.

Wickes currently stock several different varieties of cladding to suit all tastes and purposes—three timber, one PVCu for interior use only and one PVCu which can safely be used outside. Timber has in-built benefits in that it both looks and feels warm—indeed it does have some insulating

properties. It can be stained, varnished, painted, or treated with a coloured preservative. The greatest benefit of PVCu is that it is maintenance free.



TIMBER

1. Decorative Traditional Cladding. This cladding is often called T.G.V. (tongued, grooved, and v-jointed), or alternatively 'Knotty Pine V-joints' since it is attractively knotted. It has a finished size of about 8 x 94mm and has an effective coverage of about 88mm per board. It is used chiefly for the cladding of ceilings and either vertical or horizontal cladding of interior walls. It is available in 1.8m, 2.4m and 3.0m lengths, in packs of 5.

2. Shiplap. This softwood cladding is particularly suitable for exterior work such as the horizontal boarding of sheds, timber garages, the lower halves of greenhouse walls, or even parts of house walls. With a finished size of about 12 x 121mm the actual coverage per board is about 109mm. It is available in 1.8m and 2.4m lengths, in singles or packs of 5.

3. General Purpose Traditional Cladding. This boarding is an attractive vee-jointed softwood cladding that can be used horizontally and vertically for interior and exterior use. With a finished size of about 14 x 94mm, the actual coverage being around 87mm per board. It is available in 1.8 and 2.4m lengths in singles and packs of 4.

4. Interior PVCu. This white cladding can be used indoors only and can be fitted vertically or horizontally. It is particularly suitable as a wall or ceiling cladding in bathrooms being totally unaffected by moisture which might harm unprotected timbers in such locations. The cladding is part of a 'system' which includes matching PVCu profiles to form perimeter edgings and corners, etc. The cladding has an effective coverage of 100mm and is available in packs of 5 x 2.5m lengths. It is not approved for use in kitchens.

5. PVCu Cladding. This is a superior white PVCu form of cladding which, as part of a system, is suitable for use indoors or out. Since this cladding is rather special and is part of a whole range of PVCu products it has its own Good Idea Leaflet No.104.

TIMBER CLADDING

Timber cladding should never be fixed directly to walls or ceilings which are invariably uneven. It should be fitted to a framework of timber battening fixed to a wall using masonry

KEEP INFORMED

- Look for other Good Idea Leaflets that could help you with your current project.
- Check that your Good Idea Leaflets are kept up to date. Leaflets are regularly changed to reflect product changes so keep an eye on issue dates.
- If you would like to be put on our mailing list for the Wickes Catalogue call
0845 274 1000
- Visit our website
wickes.co.uk

TABLE A

Important - Open pack(s) and store flat in a pile for a minimum of 72 hours in the room in which they are going to be used. Shuffle daily to ensure all boards adapt to room conditions

DECORATIVE TRADITIONAL CLADDING

- Fit cladding battens around the perimeter of the area to be clad. Then fill in with further battens spaced at maximum centres of 400mm and running at 90° to the cladding
- Fix each piece of the cladding to every cladding batten with either cladding clips or panel pins

Important

- If Decorative Traditional Cladding is being fitted in kitchens or bathroom it must be sealed immediately to avoid moisture absorption. Use wood varnish, woodstain or paint suitable for timber
- Only fix with cladding clips or panel pins – **Do not use adhesives**
- Do not fix in recently plastered rooms because of the high moisture content

GENERAL PURPOSE TRADITIONAL CLADDING

- Fit cladding battens around the perimeter of the area to be clad. Then fill in with further battens spaced at maximum centres of 450mm and running at 90° to the cladding
- Fix each piece of the cladding to every cladding batten with suitable nails
- When used externally it must be fixed to a timber framework made up of timber battens spaced at maximum centres of 450mm and running at 90° to the cladding
- When the cladding is fixed horizontally always ensure that the tongue is pointing upwards
- Fix each piece of cladding to every batten using two oval or lost head nails

Important

- If fixing General Purpose Traditional cladding internally or externally, use the appropriate type and number of nails - **Do not use adhesives**
- If General Purpose Traditional Cladding

is being fitted in kitchens or bathroom it must be sealed immediately to avoid moisture absorption. Use wood varnish, woodstain or paint suitable for timber

- Do not fix in recently plastered rooms because of the high moisture content
- When this cladding is used externally it must be treated with an exterior timber preservative and either a high performance exterior woodstain or exterior paint suitable for timber

SHIPLAP CLADDING

- Shiplap cladding must be fitted to a timber framework made up of timber battens spaced at maximum centres of 450mm and running at 90° to the cladding
- Shiplap Cladding should be fixed horizontally always ensuring that the tongue is pointing upwards
- Fix each piece of cladding to every batten using two oval or lost head nails

Important

- Only fix with oval or lost head nails - **Do not use adhesives**
- As Shiplap Cladding is normally used for exterior applications it must be treated with an exterior timber preservative and either a high performance exterior woodstain or exterior paint suitable for timber

PROJECT SHOPPING LIST

Decorative Traditional Cladding

1.8m	Pack of 5	121-320
2.4m	Pack of 5	121-322
3.0m	Pack of 5	121-324

Shiplap Cladding

1.8m	Singles	120-807
1.8m	Pack of 5	120-806
2.4m	Singles	120-809
2.4m	Pack of 5	120-808

General Purpose Traditional Cladding

1.8m	Singles	128-461
1.8m	Pack of 4	128-460
2.4m	Singles	128-463
2.4m	Pack of 4	128-462

22 x 38mm Cladding Battens

2.4m	Pack of 10	120-939
2.4m	Singles	120-942

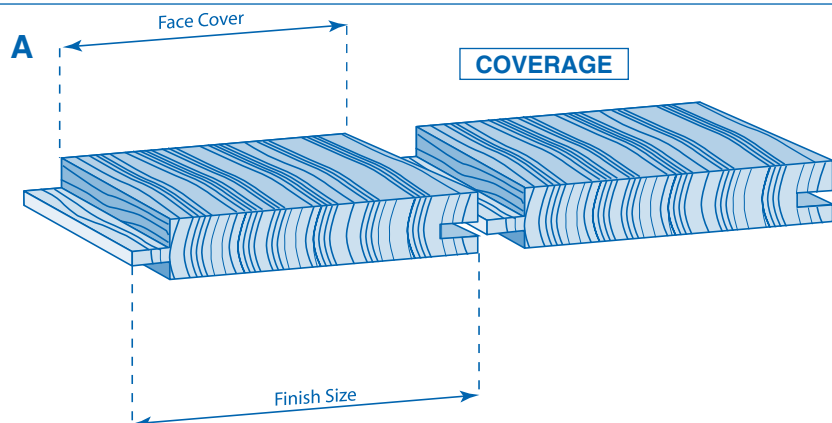
Fixings

20mm	Panel Pins	
	200g packs	516-027
50mm	No.8 c/s Woodscrews	
	Packs of 20	512-015
Wall Plugs for screws		
	Packs of 40	510-065
Cladding Clips		
	Packs of 50	510-800

and vertically for horizontal cladding. To calculate how much cladding is required you must measure the width and length of the area to be covered. For vertical cladding the wall height will determine the board lengths needed - probably 2.4m ones in the majority of homes. The width of the wall must be measured in millimetres and this figure divided by the effective covering width of the boarding to be used, as detailed above. The resulting figure will give you the number of lengths required. For example if a wall 4547mm long is to be covered with Heritage cladding which has an effective coverage of 86mm your sum is 4547 divided by 86, which equals 52.89. 53 boards will therefore be needed. For horizontal cladding measure the wall

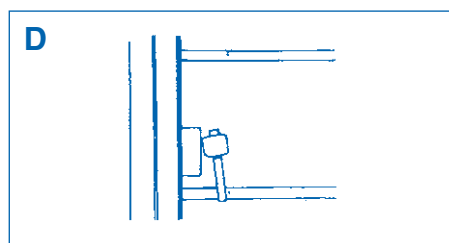
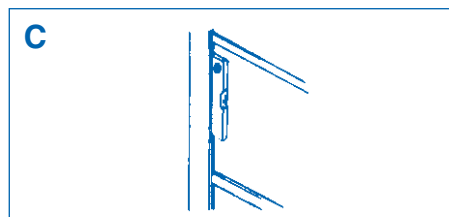
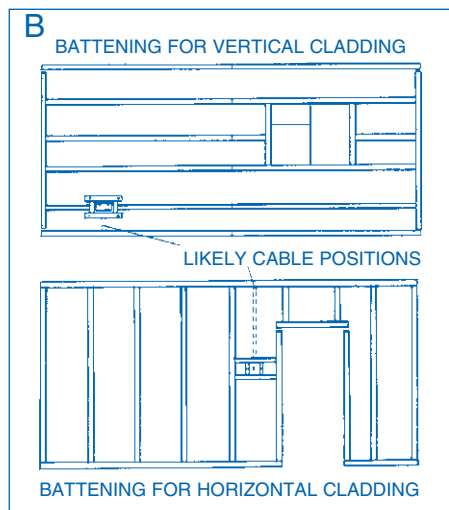
nails or screws and plugs, or to a ceiling using screws into the joists above. Use something like our 22 x 38mm Cladding Battens for this framework. The need for this timber must be taken into account when

calculating your material requirements. You will need sufficient to secure around the entire perimeter of the area to be clad and to fit between at intervals, full length horizontally for vertical cladding



**EXAMPLE
DECORATIVE TRADITIONAL CLADDING**

Effective Cover 88mm	Finish Size 8 x 94mm
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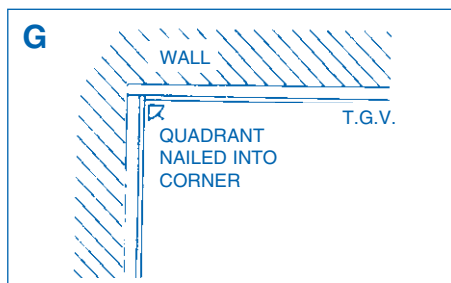
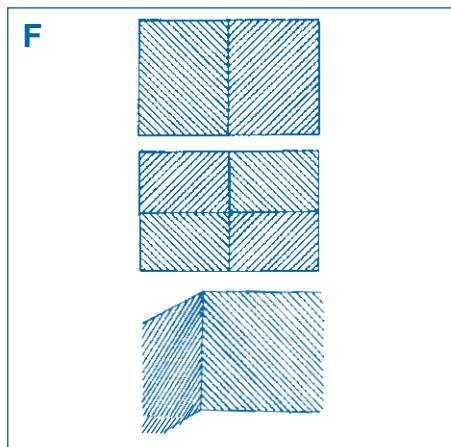
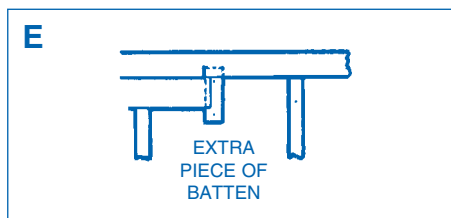
height in millimetres and again divide by the relevant width coverage of the chosen cladding. Always round figures upwards and it is generally wise to add a couple of boards to the tally in case of cutting errors.

PROJECT SHOPPING LIST

On page 2 is a list of all the timber cladding products available complete with product codes to help you select the materials you require in the store or order by telephone. You may also need some new skirting board if the original is covered perhaps serving as the bottom length of horizontal battening. This is perfectly acceptable provided that the thickness is correct. If the existing skirting is not usable as battening try to remove it undamaged to replace over the cladding later.

BEFORE YOU START

It is very important to note that timber, especially relatively thin machined cladding, is liable to shrink when taken from a store environment to a considerably warmer, drier, home environment. It is essential that any shrinkage takes place before the cladding is fitted indoors otherwise, in a short time, the boards will tend to separate as they shrink leaving unsightly gaps. So once you have purchased your cladding, store it in the room in which it is to be used for a minimum of



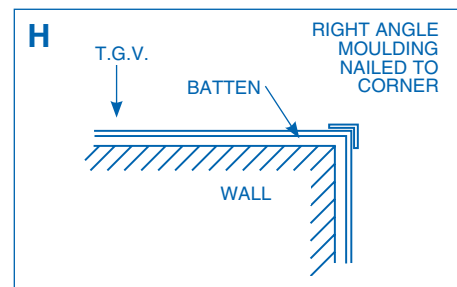
72 hours to allow it to adapt to the natural moisture content of the room. Open the packs and separate the boards. Stack them in piles and rearrange the piles every few days so that the boards in the centre and at the bottom do get air and become equally dry. If using cladding outside it may expand if it picks up additional moisture from the atmosphere. Again allow it to condition before fixing it and then ensure that it is well treated with a timber preservative either a high performance exterior woodstain or exterior paint suitable for timber.

WORK SEQUENCE

1. Fitting the wall battening
2. Fitting the cladding
3. Dealing with corners and ends
4. Finishing off

1. FITTING THE BATTENING

Secure the battening around the entire perimeter of the area being clad including around window and door frames. Pack it out where necessary on uneven walls. Infill either vertically or horizontally with intermediate lengths of battening again packing out where necessary to make a complete level framework not following uneven wall contours. **Diagram B.** Note the extra battening around the electric socket and switch. Take care not to drill into electric cables hidden in the wall. To get an idea



of the likely direction in which the power cables run, disconnect the power at the main, remove the switch or socket cover and note from which direction the cables enter the box. Flush electric fittings will need to be moved forwards and secured to the battening around the boxes so that they remain as flush fittings when the cladding is in place. Surface fittings can either be left in place, and cladding fixed up to the sides or they can be moved forwards and fitted to the surface of the cladding.

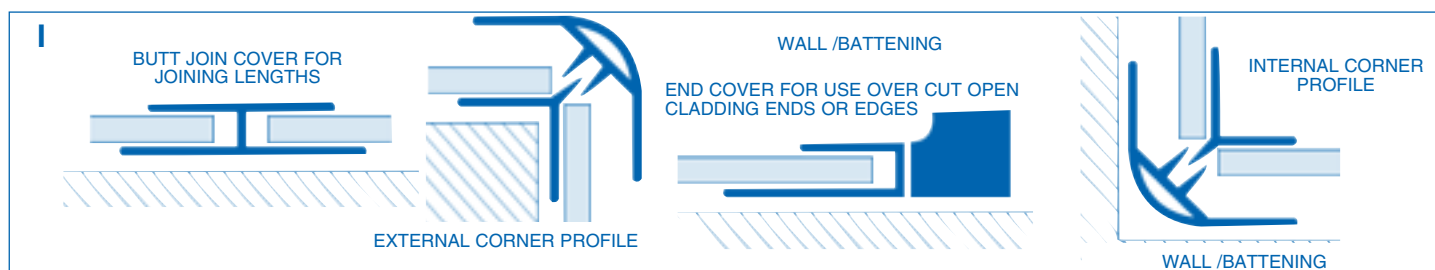
2. FITTING THE CLADDING

Vertical cladding

The first length of cladding is fixed at one end of the wall butting up against the return wall, if there is one, and pushed tightly against the ceiling. Any gap at the bottom will be covered by skirting. The grooved edge of the first board should be against the wall. Lightly secure the first length of the cladding using only two or three nails driving them in through the face of the board close to the wall into the vertical perimeter battening. Do not drive the nails fully home yet. Check with a spirit level that the board is perfectly vertical **Diagram C.** It may be necessary to shape the grooved edge of the board to achieve the level if a return wall is very uneven or out of true. Once vertical drive the nails fully home. Punch the heads below the surface for filling in later and also drive nails through the tongue on the opposite side. The tongue fixing on this and subsequent boards will be concealed by the groove of adjacent boards. Using an offcut of cladding to protect the timber, tap the board snugly against the first from top to bottom. **Diagram D.** Nail to the battens through the tongue only. Fix all subsequent boards in the same way. Cladding Clips can also be used but refer to **Table A** for details. Some will need to be cut to fit around the door or window frames or electrical fittings. The last length will probably need to be trimmed to fit in and and like the first will need to be face nailed into place.

Horizontal cladding

The general fixing procedure is the same as for vertical cladding. The first length is fixed perfectly horizontally tight up against the ceiling with the grooved edge uppermost. When more than one length of cladding is needed on a long wall, make simple butt joints, fitting an extra piece of battening to the wall behind the join. **Diagram E.** This use of small pieces of battening avoids wastage of timber and ensures that joins are staggered, i.e. not all in line down the wall.



Diagonal cladding

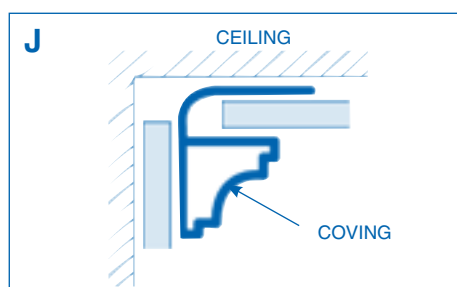
This requires rather more careful planning than vertical or horizontal cladding.

Diagram F shows some possible layouts with all joints having 45° mitres. It is advisable to stick to this angle for simplicity. Battening can be horizontal or vertical and each board will need to be cut individually to a measured length.

3. CORNERS AND ENDS

You will almost certainly need to provide a neat finish to the ends and corners of your cladding. Quadrant or scotia mouldings can be used on internal corners, **Diagram G**, and right angle beading or small section planed timber fitted to external corners, or around window and door frames.

Diagram H



CEILINGS

Standard: Battening should be used to make a framework for the cladding as with walls, but attached to the ceiling joists.

4. FINISHING OFF

Timber cladding must be sealed to prevent it becoming dirty and affected by moisture. Our Woodcare varnishes, in either a matt, satin or gloss finish, can be used. At least three coats should be applied following the instructions on the container. Alternatively, use Wickes High Performance Woodstain. The number of coats applied controls the final colour of the cladding. (see packs for details or table A).

EXTERIOR CLADDING

Exterior cladding does not differ much from interior cladding except in the treatment of the timber which naturally needs protection from the weather and the positioning of the boards when used horizontally. Cladding is fixed with the grooved edge facing downwards. Use one of our Exterior Timber Preservatives or Wickes High Performance

Woodstain. This is a microporous preservative which allows the timber to 'breathe' so that moisture can evaporate without causing the surface finish to lift off or peel in the way that paint or varnish films may.

INTERIOR PVCu CLADDING

PROJECT SHOPPING LIST

Products in the range are:-

2.5m length of cladding Pk5	120-381
2.5m Joint cover bead	120-383
2.5m End cover bead	120-384
2.5m Universal corner bead	120-385
2.5m Coving bead	120-386

Wickes interior PVCu cladding is ideal for use in situations where a maintenance-free or easy-clean finish is needed such as in bathrooms. It is fitted in much the same way as timber cladding being pinned to battening. It is normally fitted horizontally with the tongue to the top. There are a selection of 'accessories' available to ensure that the cladding which is hollow can be installed with a neat finish at corners, ends and joins.

Diagram I shows these PVCu profiles and indicates their uses. All the profiles, and the cladding, can be cut with a fine toothed saw such as a hacksaw. There are a number of ways in which the cladding can be used. On a ceiling the cladding can be fixed to its battening with straightforward butt joins to the walls at either end and the sides. Alternatively the coving profile can be fitted around the perimeter of the ceiling, on battening, and the cladding cut to slot in the coving. **Diagram J**. A wall with a return at either end can be clad without any edgings used or again the coving can be fitted at the top and in the wall corners or just up to the ceiling.

Around window or door frames the end cover bead can be used. On walls with an external or internal corner with cladding to be continued around the corner, the external/internal corner profile is used to make a neat edge. Where the lengths of cladding needed are longer than 2.5 metres the butt join profile is used.

CALCULATING YOUR CLADDING REQUIREMENTS

To determine how much cladding is required measure the width (or height) and length of the area to be covered. Decide which way the cladding is to run and divide the measurement at 90° to the run direction by 100mm—the effective coverage width of the cladding. This will tell you how many board widths will be required. Then work out how many 2.5m lengths of cladding will be needed to cover the area either in full length pieces or joined pieces. Effectively the technique is the same as for measuring for timber cladding.

FITTING PROCEDURE

For battening, read the instructions given for timber battening previously in this leaflet. The cladding is fitted in the same way as timber cladding with concealed nail fixings through the tongues. Where face fixings are necessary use white screw covers to conceal the screw heads. White silicone Frameseal may be used to secure cover beads to wall surfaces. If the width of a piece of cladding has to be reduced this can be done with a sharp trimming knife along a straightedge. Always ensure that the cladding is secured perfectly horizontally or vertically.

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